

Claim amendments

Please amend the claims preliminarily as indicated:

- 1 1. (currently amended) A system for processing a form, comprising:
2 an originating system associated with an originator;
3 a client system;
4 a center system;
5 ~~a user system associated with a user;~~
6 an identifier-generating software module;
7 a form-handling software module in the client system comprising computer-
8 executable code for sensing a request for the a requestor-specific form by the
9 originator, for entering first automatically extractable data onto an instance of the
10 requestor-specific form, and for generating a command to produce the requestor-
11 specific form for the originator;
12 an intercepting software module comprising computer-executable code for
13 sensing the command to produce the requestor-specific form,
14 the identifier-generating software module thereupon generating an request-
15 specific identifier uniquely identifying the instance of the requestor-specific form, and
16 augmenting the instance of the requestor-specific form with the request-specific
17 identifier;
18 a form-processing software module within the center system and comprising
19 computer-executable code for storing an association of the identifier with the instance of
20 the requestor-specific form, for receiving the augmented instance of the requestor-
21 specific form after handling by the originator and/or user, for comparing the request-
22 specific identifier of the received requestor-specific form against the association, and for
23 automatically routing an image of the received requestor-specific form to a destination
24 indicated in a corresponding entry in a configuration file.
- 1 2. (original) A system as in claim 1, in which the intercepting software module is
2 a driver installed in the client system.

1 3. (currently amended) A system as in claim 2, in which the command to
2 produce the requestor-specific form is a command to a standard printer driver within the
3 client system.

1 4. (currently amended) A system as in claim 2, in which the command to
2 produce the requestor-specific form is a command to download the form to the
3 originating system over a network.

1 5. (currently amended) A system as in claim 1, further comprising a
2 coordinating system connected by network to both the client system and the center
3 system for transmitting information identifying the instance of the requestor-specific form
4 to the center system from the client system.

1 6. (original) A system as in claim 5, in which the coordinating system is a web
2 service.

1 7. (new) A system as in claim 1, in which the requestor-specific form includes at
2 least one handwritten comment field, the computer system further including computer-
3 executable code for associating the handwritten comment field with a corresponding
4 report item.

1 8. (new) A system as in claim 7, in which the computer-executable code is
2 further provided for automatically extracting the handwritten comment field as a sub-
3 image and then converting the sub-image into a displayable format.

1 9. (new) A system as in claim 1, in which the form processing module is further
2 provided for automatically extracting data from the received requestor-specific form.

1 10. (new) A system as in claim 9, in which the form processing module includes
2 a format conversion module comprising computer-executable code for automatically
3 converting the extracted data into any of a plurality of predetermined formats for

4 transmission of the extracted data to a recipient in the format that is associated with that
5 recipient.

1 11. (new) A system as in claim 9, in which the center system is an intermediary
2 system between multiple parties for transmission of data extracted from requestor-
3 specific forms sent from different users to any of the multiple parties.

1 12. (new) A system for processing a form, comprising:
2 a client system;
3 a center system;
4 a form-handling software module in the client system comprising
5 computer-executable code for sensing a request for a requestor-specific form, for
6 entering first automatically extractable data onto an instance of the requestor-specific
7 form, and for generating a command to produce the requestor-specific form for a
8 requestor;

9 an intercepting software module in the client system comprising computer-
10 executable code for sensing the command to produce the requestor-specific form,
11 a form-processing software module within the center system and
12 comprising computer-executable code for storing an association of a request-specific
13 form identifier with the instance of the requestor-specific form, for receiving the
14 augmented instance of the requestor-specific form after handling by the user, for
15 comparing the request-specific identifier of the received form against the association,
16 and for automatically routing an image of the received requestor-specific form to a
17 destination indicated by rules that trigger actions based on predefined request-specific
18 conditions.

1 13. (new) A system as in claim 12, in which the automatic routing of an image
2 of the received form to a destination indicated by rules that trigger actions based on
3 defined conditions.

1 14. (new) A system as in claim 13, in which the form-processing module is
2 further provided with computer-executable code for issuing a message to at least one
3 recipient as part of the automatic routing.

1 15. (new) A system as in claim 12, in which the conditions are also a function of
2 at least one item of the extracted data.

1 16. (new) A system as in claim 12, in which the conditions include pre-
2 determined conditions.

1 17. (new) A system as in claim 16, in which the pre-determined conditions are
2 selected from a group consisting of form transmission errors, form reception errors,
3 form completion errors and conditions associated with predetermined routing
4 categories.

1 18. (new) A system for processing a form, comprising:
2 a user system associated with a user;
3 a client system;
4 a center system;
5 an identifier-generating software module;
6 a form-handling software module in the client system comprising computer-
7 executable code for sensing a request for a requestor-specific form by the user, for
8 entering first automatically extractable data onto an instance of the requestor-specific
9 form, and for generating a command to produce the requestor-specific form for the user;
10 an intercepting software module in the center system comprising computer-
11 executable code for sensing the command to produce the requestor-specific form,
12 the identifier-generating software module thereupon generating a request-
13 specific identifier uniquely identifying the instance of the requestor-specific form, and
14 augmenting the instance of the requestor-specific form with the identifier;
15 a form-processing software module within the center system and comprising
16 computer-executable code for storing an association of the identifier with the instance of

17 the requestor-specific form, for receiving the augmented instance of the requestor-
18 specific form after handling by the user, for comparing the identifier of the received form
19 against the association, and for automatically routing an image of the received
20 requestor-specific form to a destination indicated in a corresponding entry in a
21 configuration file.